

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. Border fortifications have been in the process of construction for three years, and the lines in the Malko Tŭrnovo area have been completed. They begin about five kilometers behind the headquarters of border guard sastavas and extend 30 kilometers inland, running parallel to the border. Each line consists of two rows of trenches 300-400 meters apart, 1-1.2 meters deep, and wide enough for two men to walk side by side. Sometimes the trenches are zig-zag and sometimes in a straight line. In the Malko Tŭrnovo area there are seven of these lines, with three between the border and Veleka River at intervals of 1.5 to 2 kilometers. On the inland side of Veleka River, there are four more lines further apart.
2. There are semi-circular, single-man firing posts with from one to four embrasures every five or six meters along the lines, heavy machine gun posts every 200 meters, and light machine gun posts between the heavy machine gun posts (exact interval unknown).
3. Circular concrete fortifications camouflaged with earth are located near all highways in the border area, and on every prominent point. In the Malko Tŭrnovo area they number in the hundreds in the 30-kilometer zone nearest the border.
4. Besides the bunkers, there are "gun" and mortar posts in the border area. These fortifications, which include shelters for men and ammunition, were seen near Zvezdets (N 42-07, E 27, 24), between Gramatikovo (N 42-03, E 27-39) and Kostil (N 42-04, E 27-48), near Tsarevo, at Bosna (N 42-11, E 27-26), and at many other places. None of the fortifications were occupied.

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25 YEAR  
RE-REVIEW

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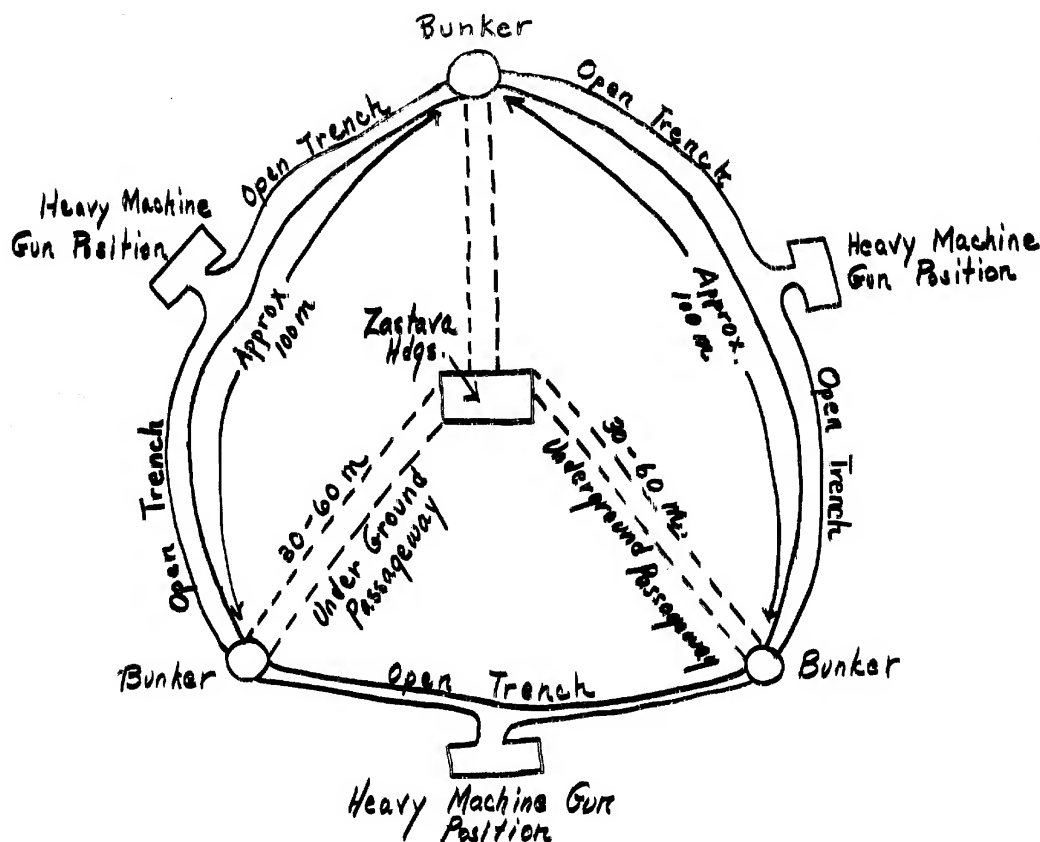
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5. Since the main fortification lines are located behind the various Border Guard zastava headquarters five or more kilometers inland from the border, the zastava headquarters are dependent on a system of fortification known as the "Circular Defense System" for their own defense in case of an enemy attack. This system consists of a trench which encircles the zastava headquarters some 30 to 60 meters from the headquarters buildings, three heavy machine gun positions, and three bunkers containing two or three heavy machine guns and encircled by barbed-wire. The three bunkers are equidistant from each other and can be entered only through the underground tunnels which connect them to the headquarters building. The bunker walls are 100 to 150 centimeters thick and contain two or three heavy machine guns with a field of fire covering all approaches. Ammunition is stored in the bunkers and is to be replenished during fighting by a team consisting of a master sergeant and the zastava's cook and baker.
6. The heavy machine gun positions are located in the middle of the trenches which extend in an arch between the bunkers, but from which no entry into the bunkers is possible. The trenches contain single-man firing positions every five or six meters and are connected to the headquarters building by auxiliary trenches. In case of an attack on the zastava headquarters the defense line can be manned in no more than two minutes without exposing any of the men to enemy fire.

(A sketch, based on a freehand drawing [ ] and showing all defenses except the auxiliary trenches is shown below).

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7. The only rows of barbed wire entanglements are close to the border, located 500-600 meters from and parallel to the frontier in barriers four meters wide and two meters high. The portion of the frontier guarded by 1 Komandatura of 7 Border Guard Otryad, the area from Bliznak (N 42-10, E 27-16) to Brushlyan (N 42-04, E 27-25) is to be entirely protected by barbed wire and, as of April 1953, a 60-man engineer unit of the Border Guard, was engaged in constructing these barriers. At that date, only the most suitable escape routes were so protected. In the portion of the border guarded by the 2 Komandatura from Brushlyan to Kladara (N 41-56, E 27-39), only the district of the 7 "Orlovo" Zastava and the eastern half of the district of the 8 "Yantra" Zastava were protected by barbed wire. For the section guarded by the 3 Komandatura, from Kladara to Rezovo (N 42-00, E 27-59), only the districts of the 15 "Truyu" and the 17 "Akatsiya" Zastavas were protected by barbed wire.
8. The following areas near the border are mined with antitank mines:
- An area, 1,500 meters long and 400 meters wide, in the western half of the district guarded by the 7 "Orlovo" Zastava directly on the border in front of a "neutral hill" to the east of the Turkish border post "Baglar Basi";
  - The road leading from the area described in subparagraph a. above to Malko Turnovo, for a distance of 300 meters, as well as a 300-meter wide area on either side of the road for a distance of 500 meters;
  - The road leading from Malko Turnovo to the district guarded by the 8 "Yantra" Zastava, for about two kilometers, as well as an area 300-400 meters wide east of the road for the same distance;
  - An area approximately 6.5 kilometers long and 500 meters wide in the eastern half of the district guarded by the 17 "Akatsiya" Zastava, from about 800 meters west of Rezovo to the zastava headquarters; and
  - A level area dotted with small hills, two kilometers long and 200-250 meters wide, which extends to the east and west of the headquarters of the 3 "Lale" Zastava.
9. The following places are mined with antipersonnel mines, since the terrain is such that no tanks or other vehicles could pass:
- About 500 meters from the frontier in the district of the 2 "Kokiche" Zastava, at two places where several streams come together;
  - The areas on both sides of two fairly large streams which flow north through the district of the 6 "Vishna" Zastava for as far as 500-600 meters; and
  - Both sides of Rezovska River, at Kladara, in the district of the 11 "Timok" Zastava; west of Kladara, an area approximately 2.5 kilometers long and 5.5 meters wide; east of Kladara an area approximately 1.5 kilometers long and 5.5 meters wide.
10. [redacted] no other areas in the district of 7 Border Guard Otryad are mined and [redacted] these areas were mined prior to June 1952, [redacted] 25X1  
 [redacted] Unpainted wooden signs about 10 centimeters wide and 50 centimeters high are fixed in the ground at the edge of the mined areas with the word "Minirano" (mined) written on them in red, and all trees and large stones along the edges of the area are whitewashed. In the areas mined with antipersonnel mines, corridors 1.5 meters wide are left for border guard soldiers to use and are marked with a line of small stones on each side. This type of corridor is used in the "Timok" Zastava minefield. In the mined areas close to streams, the border guard patrols use special wooden walkways. The 7 Border Guard Otryad engineer company which constructs barbed wire entanglements also lays all the mines. 25X1

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11. The following two types of concrete block road barriers are used:

- a. The type which roll into position on wooden rollers; and
- b. The type which tip over into position on the road and are held in place by spikes which enter the ground through the force of the fall of the blocks.

these barriers in the following locations [redacted]  
were often located where one side of the road rose sharply and the other fell sharply:

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- a. Four barriers between Malko Turnovo and the border;
- b. Forty between Malko Turnovo and Zvezdets on the Malko Turnovo-Burgas highway;
- c. Forty-to fifty between Zvezdets and Burgas;
- d. An unknown number between Tsarevo and Rezovo;
- e. Ten between Bosna and Tsarevo; and
- f. An unknown number between Tsarevo and Rezovo.

12. A tank trap, about five meters deep, 8-10 meters wide, and camouflaged with wood and brush, is located on both sides of the highway between Brushlyan and Zvezdets about 4.5 kilometers north of Brushlyan at a place which the Border Guard units call Mramor. A small stream which flows close to the eastern portion of the trap has been dammed so that the tank trap may be flooded whenever desired. A tunnel which leads under the road and connects the two sections of the trap may be blown up in order to block the highway. The part of the trap to the east of the highway is 140 meters long and the portion to the west 60 meters long. A sentry is on duty at all times to control the dam, guard the fortification and check the documents of all passersby. [redacted] the dam, guard the fortification and check the documents of all passersby.

13. A longer tank trap of similar construction, although with no provisions for flooding, is located on each side of the highway four to five kilometers north of Zvezdets.

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